

General Assembly Amendment

January Session, 2013

LCO No. 8183

\*HB0663708183HD0\*

Offered by:

REP. ORANGE, 48th Dist.

To: House Bill No. **6637** File No. 669 Cal. No. 462

## "AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCONTINUANCE OF HIGHWAYS AND PRIVATE WAYS BY MUNICIPALITIES."

- 1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
- 2 following in lieu thereof:
- 3 "Section 1. Section 13a-49 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2013*):
- 5 (a) (1) The selectmen of any town may, subject to approval by a
- 6 majority vote at any regular or special town meeting, by a writing
- 7 signed by them, discontinue any highway or private way, or land
- 8 dedicated as such, in its entirety, or may discontinue any portion
- 9 thereof or any property right of the town or public therein, except
- when laid out by a court or the General Assembly, and except where
- such highway is within a city, or within a borough having control of
- 12 highways within its limits.
- 13 (2) Whenever the selectmen of a town approve such discontinuance
- or partial discontinuance on or after October 1, 2013, the selectmen

HB 6637 Amendment

15 shall give notice of such discontinuance or partial discontinuance to 16 each owner of property that bounds the discontinued highway or private way, or land dedicated as such, or portion thereof, by mailing a 17 18 copy of such writing to such owner's address as shown in the last-19 completed grand list of the town, by first class mail, and shall file a 20 copy of such writing in the office of the town clerk. If, in the opinion of 21 the selectmen, the boundary lines or limits of the discontinued 22 highway or private way have become lost or uncertain, the selectmen 23 shall make reasonable efforts to identify the boundary lines or limits of 24 the discontinued highway or private way, and shall give such notice to 25 each owner of property that bounds or traverses such identified 26 boundary line or limit in accordance with this subdivision. Such 27 reasonable efforts need not include an examination of title or abstracts 28 thereof or a land survey.

- 29 (3) The closure of any highway or private way by a town or its selectmen that was approved prior to October 1, 2013, shall not be deemed a discontinuance or partial discontinuance for the purposes of this part unless a contrary intent is clearly expressed on the record of the regular or special town meeting at which such closure was approved.
  - (4) Any person aggrieved by a discontinuance or partial discontinuance under this subsection may [be relieved by application] apply to the Superior Court [, to be made and proceeded with] in the manner prescribed in section 13a-62.
  - (b) Whenever a petition has been presented to the selectmen for such discontinuance or partial discontinuance of any land dedicated as a highway or private way but which has not been actually used, worked or accepted [,] as a highway [,] by the town, and such discontinuance or partial discontinuance has not been made by the selectmen and approved by the town within twelve months after such presentation, any person aggrieved may [be relieved by application] apply to said court [, to be made and proceeded with] in the manner prescribed in section 13a-62."

35

3637

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

HB 6637 Amendment

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1 October 1, 2013 13a-49